EMERGENCY CLOSING SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

01-01-2015

Provisions for emergency closing were previously included in the Adverse Weather policy. A separate policy has been adopted for clarification purposes. At the same time, the following amendments were included:

- Clarified agency heads should make emergency closing decisions in consultation with their safety officer or designee.
- Added definitions for emergency employee and emergency operations.
- Removed reference to snow and ice as examples of a "catastrophic life threatening weather event". Added a section on "Weather Events" which clarifies "catastrophic weather events" that may cross over from regular adverse weather conditions to emergency closing conditions.
- Clarified that emergency closings impact both non-mandatory and mandatory employees.
- Added bomb threats as an example of an emergency evacuation and removed equipment failure as an example.
- Clarified emergency closings should only be implemented for "prolonged" disruption of power and/or water.
- Clarified loss of heat and air conditioning does not necessarily meet the definition of emergency closing. Referred to the adverse weather policy if weather conditions are extreme.
- Clarified how a declaration of a "State of Emergency" impacts emergency closing decisions.
- Clarified rented office space from a non-state entity should have an agreement or understanding on who makes and communicates facility closing decisions due to emergency conditions.
- Clarified emergency time off (ETO) must be taken within 12 months or it is lost and it is not paid out upon separation or transfer to another agency.
- Clarified non-emergency employees who are reassigned to a different work location or alternate work arrangement will not be eligible for emergency time off (ETO).